



MINUTES

Las Cruces Public Schools Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 21, 2014 • 6:30 p.m.
LCPS Administration Building Board Room • Televised by LCPS.TV

I. INTRODUCTION

A. *Call to Order*

President Dr. Bonnie Votaw called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B. *Roll Call*

Roll call was taken by Mr. Chuck Davis. Those present:

- Dr. Bonnie Votaw, President
- Mrs. Barbara Hall, Vice President
- Mr. Chuck Davis, Secretary
- Dr. Connie Phillips, Member
- Sra. Maria Flores, Member

Superintendent Stan Rounds was also in attendance.

C. *Pledge of Allegiance*

President Dr. Votaw led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

D. *Performance by Mayfield High School Madrigal Singers*

The audience enjoyed a performance by the Mayfield High School Madrigal Singers under the direction of Derek Gilmour.

E. *Approval of Minutes*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2014 Regular Board Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

F. *Approval of Agenda*

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

G. *Approval of Consent Agenda Items*

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve consent agenda items V.A.1. Approval of Bids, V.A. 2. Approval of Property Dispositions, V.A.3. Approval of Vendor Payments, V.A.4. Approval of Budget Adjustments, V.A.5. Approval of Waivers, V.B. 1. Approval of Student Out of State Travel, and VI.A.1. Third Reading and Approval of Policy JLC Student Health Services. The motion passed unanimously.

II. RECOGNITIONS

A. *Mesilla Valley Elementary School by Imagine Learning*

Superintendent Rounds and Board members recognized Mesilla Valley Elementary School as being named the SY 2013-14 Imagine Nation Super School by Imagine Learning. A representative from Imagine Learning was in attendance and provided Mesilla Elementary School with a banner of recognition to hang at the school.

B. *Recognition of Mr. Christopher Herrera and Ms. Anna Chacon-Krause*

Superintendent Rounds and Board members recognized Mr. Christopher Herrera and Ms. Anna Chacon-Krause, parents at Picacho Middle School, for their heroic efforts in saving the life of Hunter Keffer, an 8th grade student at Picacho Middle School. He was struck by lightning on the football

practice field on August 19, 2014. Ms. Chacon-Krause was unable to attend the meeting and Mrs. Cindy Baker, Principal, will present her with a certificate at a staff meeting.

Dr. Votaw acknowledged government students from Arrowhead Park Early College High School in the audience.

II. PUBLIC INPUT

A. *Non-agenda items*

None.

B. *Agenda items*

Helen Davis, NEA-LC Representative, commented on the recent tragic accident involving a former graduate of Arrowhead Park Early College High School and on the NEA-LC vote walk on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. *Approval of Voting Centers versus Voting Booths for Elections*

Ms. Jo Galvan, Director of Communications and Policy Development, shared with the Board an analysis of the costs of the use of voting consolidated centers versus voting booths for elections. The cost for the February 2015 election would be \$1,500 per center; a decrease in amounts charged in past elections. School Board election expenses would be considerably lower than the cost for a bond/mill levy election. Fewer voting locations are also recommended for future bond/mill levy elections to reduce costs. Voters may vote at any location.

A discussion ensued regarding a constitutional amendment that could assist with the cost of the use of voting centers; as well as the possibility of sharing a ballot with Dona Ana Community College to reduce costs. Mr. Scott Krahling, Chief Deputy Clerk, Dona Ana County, discussed the aspects of the constitutional amendment and shared that it would not allow for the district to consolidate centers. Board members also discussed their concerns regarding voter confusion in using voting locations. Ms. Galvan stated the district has used consolidated centers in the past, and the approval of this item is for the upcoming board election only. However, it is recommended to continue to use the same voting sequence as not to confuse voters in future elections.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to use voting consolidated centers for all future elections. A roll call vote was taken. Sra. Flores – yes; Mrs. Hall – yes; Dr. Phillips – yes; Mr. Davis – yes; Dr. Votaw – yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Rounds shared with the Board that Ms. Eloisa Solis, Principal at Central Elementary School, would like to survey the community move in implementing a dual language magnet program at Central Elementary School.

2. *Certified/Classified Report*

Dr. Elizabeth Marrufo, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Development, shared with board members the Certified/Classified Report. There were no comments.

V. OTHER REPORTS

A. *Finance: Items #1, #2, #3, #4 and #5 were on consent* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

6. *Approval of Continuing Disclosure Compliance Resolution*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology, discussed with the Board two Resolutions regarding Post Issuance Compliance and Continuing Disclosure Compliance and requested approval of these resolutions. He explained that due to new regulations issued by the Securities Exchange Commission, the district must adopt new procedures to comply with the regulations.

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the Continuing Disclosure Compliance Resolution. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Davis-aye; Dr. Votaw-aye; Sra. Flores-aye; Mrs. Hall-aye; and Dr. Phillips-aye. The motion passed unanimously.

7. *Approval of Post Issuance Compliance Resolution*

A motion was made by Dr. Connie Phillips and seconded by Mr. Chuck Davis to approve the Continuing Disclosure Compliance Resolution. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Davis-aye; Dr. Votaw-aye; Sra. Flores-aye; Mrs. Hall-aye; and Dr. Phillips-aye. The motion passed unanimously.

8. *Approval of SY 2014-15 Increment Schedule*

Superintendent Rounds discussed the LCPS 2014-15 *corrected* Increment Schedule which provides compensation for certain staff with additional job duties and responsibilities such as band directors and coaches. He stated that an adjustment to the LCPS Increment Schedule has not been made in 15 years, and therefore is outdated. The proposed Increment Schedule is an increase of \$106,500.00 to fairly compensate those staff members with additional job duties or responsibilities.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Mrs. Barbara Hall to approve the SY 2014-15 Increment Schedule. The motion passed unanimously.

9. *Board Financial Report*

Mr. Terry Dean, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Technology shared a financial report which consists of information with regard to funds, assets, equity, revenue, and expenditures. Mr. Dean stated a financial report will be given to the board on a monthly basis in order to keep the Board fully informed with a more detailed report provided on a quarterly basis.

B. *Instruction: Item #1 was on consent* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

2. *Approval of Head Start Screener Documents*

Dr. Maria Artiaga presented the Board the Health and Safety Screener and the Governance and Leadership Capacity Screener for approval. Dr. Artiaga stated documents recommended for approval by the Board are state mandated.

Mr. Davis inquired about the actions on the Action Plan that are listed as pending. President Dr. Votaw requested the Board be informed when job orders have been completed.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the Head Start Screener Documents. The motion passed unanimously.

3. *Challenger Learning Center Proposal*

Dr. Steven Sanchez presented to the Board a proposal to implement a Challenger Learning Center, an interactive computerized simulator with a Mission Control Room patterned after the NASA Johnson Space Center. The Program comes to the District from The Village of Los Ranchos, New Mexico which is the current home of the New Mexico Challenger Learning Center. The Village would like to donate all furniture and technology equipment (an approximate value is \$625,000) to the District. The Challenger Learning Center will be housed in the Professional Development Center occupying approximately 3,000 square feet. The proposed opening date is August 2015. A discussion ensued regarding the enhanced curriculum in our schools and the support of board members.

4. *LCPS Language Academy Proposal*

Dr. Steven Sanchez presented to the Board a proposal from the Division of Learning, Teaching, and Research to establish an after school Language Academy which will cater to students and families. The following languages will be offered: beginning, intermediate and advanced sessions in Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, American Sign Language, and English. It is proposed to launch the Language Academy in January 2015. A community survey will be conducted to obtain the interest of the community.

A discussion ensued with regard to the costs of hiring teachers for the program. Dr. Sanchez stated the options are currently being discussed. A further discussion ensued regarding the minimum age requirements for the program.

5. *Pre-Advanced Placement Middle School Science Report*
Dr. Wendi Miller Tomlinson, Director of Secondary Education and Melissa DeLaurentis, Teacher on Special Assignment for Secondary Science Specialist/Spaceport, provided a presentation to the Board which focused on Pre-AP science student enrollment. Ms. DeLaurentis stated that this is a project-based learning course that focuses on stressing the application of knowledge in real-world situations

A discussion ensued with regard to the course being available to all students and not to only selected advanced placement students and with regard to Spaceport funds being used.

6. *Head Start Meal Report*
President Dr. Votaw commented on the menus. There were no further comments from Board members.

C. *Operations*

1. *Approval of Memorandum of Agreement between LCPS and NMDOH for Healthy Kids Healthy Communities*

Mr. Dane Kennon, Associate Superintendent of Operations, asked the Board to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between LCPS and the New Mexico Department of Health for Healthy Kids Healthy Communities Safe Routes to Schools Program. The Memorandum of Agreement reflects a decrease of \$5,000.00 from last year's agreement. The program is currently in 22 schools and the Memorandum of Agreement allows for an increase of schools in the program.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between LCPS and NMDOH for Healthy Kids Healthy Communities. The motion passed unanimously.

2. *Approval of Increase to Fleet Service Contract Rents & Leases*

Mr. Dane Kennon, Associate Superintendent of Operations, stated the Public Education Department ("PED") Transportation Bureau approved replacement for two buses. PED Regulation requires bus contractors to replace buses older than 10 years. The increase of the contract in the amount \$39,602.00 is for the purchase of two new buses.

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to approve the Increase to Fleet Service Contract Rents & Leases. The motion passed unanimously.

3. *Presentation on LCPS Soccer Complex Design*

Richard Haas and Gabe Lucero of Steve Newby Architects shared a brief presentation on the Soccer Complex which included a timeline of construction phases and projected dates of completion. Mr. Davis suggested the widening of Tashiro Blvd due to the continuing growth of our facilities in that area.

4. *Construction Projects Report*

Sra. Flores asked about the roofing project at Alameda Elementary School and shared her concern with regard to the roof leaking with all the recent rains. Mr. Kennon responded that there is a delay in the project; however, the patching of the roof is being done and a new roof will be constructed after school is out. Superintendent Rounds stated that Mr. Kennon will do another walk through at Alameda Elementary School to assess any leaks that may have occurred with the recent rains. President Dr. Votaw asked for a report at the next board meeting on the progress of all roof projects within the district.

VI. BOARD ITEMS

- A. *Old Business: Item #1 was on consent* and approved earlier in the meeting.*

2. *NMSBA Approved Resolutions Update*

Superintendent Rounds and Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, shared a table of the NMSBA resolutions which included those submitted by LCPS. Mr. Davis stated the resolutions submitted by LCPS were somewhat modified by NMSBA and the table states the modifications. Final resolutions will be provided to Board members by NMSBA at the December Annual Convention.

B. *New Business*

1. *First Reading of Policy DIG Bond Disclosure Compliance*

Superintendent Rounds shared with the Board that this policy is to formally implement procedures mandated by the Internal Revenue Service and the Securities Exchange Commission. President Dr. Votaw recommended this policy move to approval at the second reading as it is a legal requirement for the District to implement the mandated procedures. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading and approval at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

2. *First Reading of Policy IHCG K-3 Plus*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy defines critical terms and establishes a process for the K-3 Plus program. President Dr. Votaw suggested adding an evaluation component to the policy. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

3. *First Reading of Policy JLD Guidance and Counseling*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy was originally adopted in 2007. The policy has been updated to include language with regard to personal growth and social emotional well-being as part of school counseling. There were no other changes made to the policy. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

4. *First Reading of Policy GBGC Employee Assistance and Wellness*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this was originally adopted in 2007, and has been updated to reflect the overall structure of current policies. The policy also encourages employees to pursue healthy lifestyles and to maintain a positive, healthy work environment. In addition, the policy reflects a shift in the responsibility for the implementation to the Associate Superintendent for Human Resource Development from the Associate Superintendent of Operations. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

5. *First Reading of Policy JLJ Student Nutrition*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated this policy reflects revisions that bring the policy in line with the Healthy Hunger Free Act of 2010 and guidelines published by the US Department of Agriculture and focuses on the need to provide positive nutrition messages and practices in all of our schools. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

Sra. Flores shared her concern of children not having enough time to eat. Nancy Cathey, Director of Nutrition Services, shared with the Board that she has a recommended a mandated 30 minute lunch period for elementary students. This recommendation will be included in the regulation.

6. *First Reading of Policy ADF Wellness for Students and Staff*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, states this policy reflects changes suggested by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The policy is to ensure the District's activities and practices promote student and staff wellness as well as a requirement to include information on the District's website with regard to services for both students and staff. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

7. *First Reading of Policy IHAMD Nutrition Education*

Dr. Steven Sanchez, Deputy Superintendent, stated revisions to Policy IHAMD establish the District's recognition of the importance of nutrition education and brings the policy in compliance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Act of 2010. The policy will be posted on the district's website for comments and will move forward for a second reading at the November 18, 2014 Regular Board Meeting.

VII. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Sra. Flores toured Loma Heights and visited the dual language classrooms as well as attended a Student Health Advisory Committee meeting. She walked to school with Hillrise Elementary students and attended a data meeting at Alameda Elementary School. Sra. Flores visited a dual language classroom at Central Elementary School, participated in an Enlace parent meeting at Mayfield High School, and attended the Chamber of Commerce Literacy Event at Lynn Middle School. Mrs. Hall attended Band Night and walked to school with Mesilla Park.

VIII. UPCOMING EVENTS

A. Calendar of Events

President Dr. Votaw shared with the Board that a calendar of events was placed in each board member's folder for their review.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Chuck Davis and seconded by Dr. Connie Phillips to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Dr. Bonnie Votaw, Board President

Mr. Chuck Davis, Board Secretary

Minutes taken by Tina Gonzalez.